



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

Fact Sheet | Sage-Grouse Planning *Utah* – June 2018

During these public meetings the BLM will listen to concerns, answer questions, and help those interested in this effort formulate useful and effective comments that identify new information – especially new scientific information – which supports refinements to the alternatives or suggests new alternatives to consider.

- The BLM is publishing six Draft Environmental Impact Statements (EISs) covering seven states (Colorado, Oregon, Wyoming, Idaho, Utah and Nevada/California). Amendments or plan maintenance actions could affect up to 98 land-use plans for 67 million acres of public land.
- Among the comments received during the scoping period (October 11 – December 4, 2017) were those stating the 2015 plans were overly restrictive or in conflict with state plans, and requesting modification. Coupled with Secretary Zinke’s direction for greater cooperation with states and bringing all plans into better alignment, the decision to amend the plans was made on March 1, 2018.
- All Draft EISs have two alternatives: No Action and a “Management Alignment Alternative,” which is the BLM’s preferred alternative in each case.

By continuing to work closely with our partners, the BLM believes it can conserve key sagebrush-steppe habitat while supporting multiple-use activities on public land.

Utah | 4 million acres of habitat: 14 resource management plans

Topic	Proposed Change
Sagebrush Focal Areas	Remove SFA designation from 181,000 acres without changing underlying uses.
Habitat Management Areas	Remove GHMA designation from 448,600 acres (reverts to management in place prior to 2015).
Waivers, exceptions, modifications to NSO stipulations	Allow exceptions and modifications in Priority HMA if development is in non-habitat and doesn’t indirectly impact habitat. Allow waiver if the area is no longer PHMA.
Adaptive management actions	Determine causal factors, then apply designed response. If area recovers, return to original management. If sage-grouse are no longer present with the population area for more than 10 consecutive years, do not manage as PHMA.

Leasing prioritization	Remove prioritization objective and rely on NSO stipulation and other conservation measures to protect habitat.
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Utah Meeting Schedule		
City	Venue Address	Date & Time
Cedar City	Cedar City Festival Hall/Heritage Theater 2nd Floor, Conference Rooms 1 & 2 105 North 100 East, Cedar City, Utah 84720	June 26 th , 5pm-7pm
Vernal	Western Park Convention Center 300 East 200 South, Vernal, Utah 84078	June 27 th , 5pm-7pm
Randolph	Randolph Senior Citizen's Center 5 N. Main St., Randolph, Utah 84064	June 28 th , 5pm-7pm

Comments may be submitted through August 2, 2018, by mail: BLM – Greater Sage-Grouse EIS, BLM-UT mailing address; or online at <https://goo.gl/ywBXSq>.

In general, comments that provide information or references to research that have not been previously considered or available are helpful, as are specific suggestions for changes in the alternatives or changes in management practices.

